



H.Res. 427- Urging the Government of Canada to end the commercial seal hunt

H.Res. 427 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Tom Lantos (D-CA) on May 22, 2007 and was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs but was never considered.

H.Res. 427 is expected to be considered on the Floor of the House of Representatives on July 30, 2007.

Summary

H.Res. 427 urges the Government of Canada to end the commercial seal hunt.

Background

On November 15, 2006, the Government of Canada opened a commercial hunt for seals in the waters off the east coast of Canada.

A report by an independent team of veterinarians invited to observe the hunt by the International Fund for Animal Welfare concluded that the seal hunt failed to comply with basic animal welfare regulations in Canada and that governmental regulations regarding humane killing were not being respected or enforced.

Over 1,000,000 seals have been killed over the course of 3 years, some as young as 12 days old. Many seals are shot in the course of the hunt, but escape beneath the ice where they die slowly and are never recovered, and these seals are not counted in official kill statistics, making the actual kill level far higher than the level that is reported

CBO Estimate

At the time of publication the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) had not yet scored this legislation.

Staff Contact

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